

Abstract

A system for providing role-based Presentity availability information to a Watcher, comprising at least one Presentity User Agent for issuing a request to register a Presentity in at least one of a plurality of roles, and for generating context messages relating to changes in context of the Presentity. At least one Watcher User Agent is provided for issuing a role-based subscription request for the availability information. A Presence Service is provided for maintaining role-based Watcher subscriptions and issuing availability messages in response to generation of the context messages. A Role Manager is provided for (i) receiving each request to register a Presentity in a role and in response managing Presentity registration in that role, and (ii) receiving each role-based subscription request, and in response managing each role-based Watcher subscription to the availability information within the Presence Service.